

THESSALONIANS

Standing firm in the shadow of
religious confusion

Chapters 1-3: The Historical Section

- ✱ Praise for their persistence and zeal
- ✱ Reminder of why they listened and obeyed
- ✱ A recounting of Paul's hardships on their behalf
- ✱ A reminder of Christian suffering around the world

Chapters 4-5: The Practical Section

- ✱ Exhortation against sexual vices
- ✱ Clarifications on the return of Christ
- ✱ Encouragement to work and lead lives as God intends.



52-53
AD

The Greeting (vs. 1)

Paul

To the church of the Thessalonians
IN
God the Father and the Lord Jesus
Christ.

Silvanus
(also known as
Silas - Acts
15:40)

The word 'in' refers to an intimacy of
union here and in other places
throughout the New Testament.

Timothy
(see Acts
16:1-3)

Paul's Prayer of Thanks (vs. 2-4)

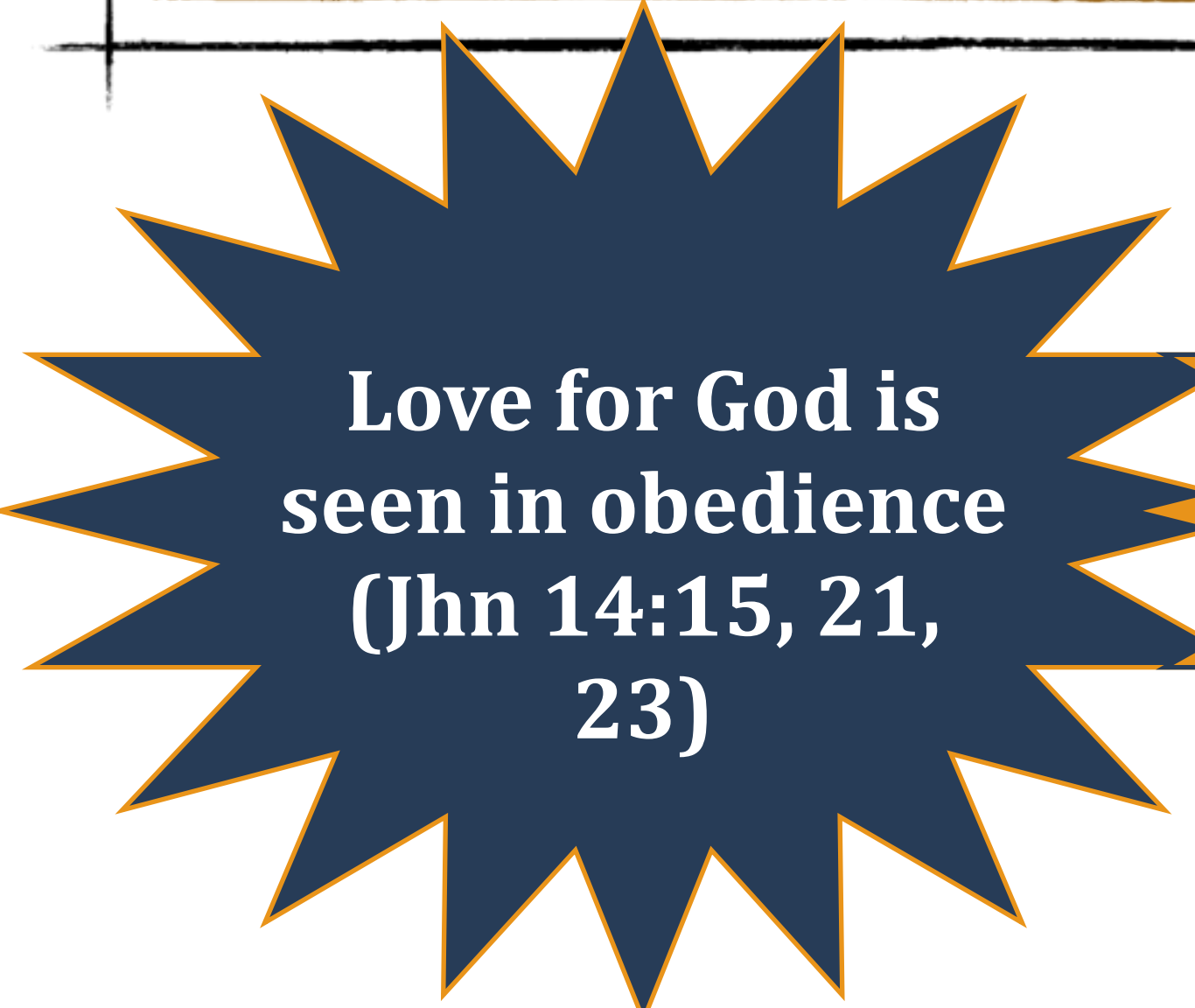
We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers, remembering without ceasing your work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the sight of our God and Father, knowing, beloved brethren, your election by God.

Paul's Prayer of Thanks (vs. 2-4)

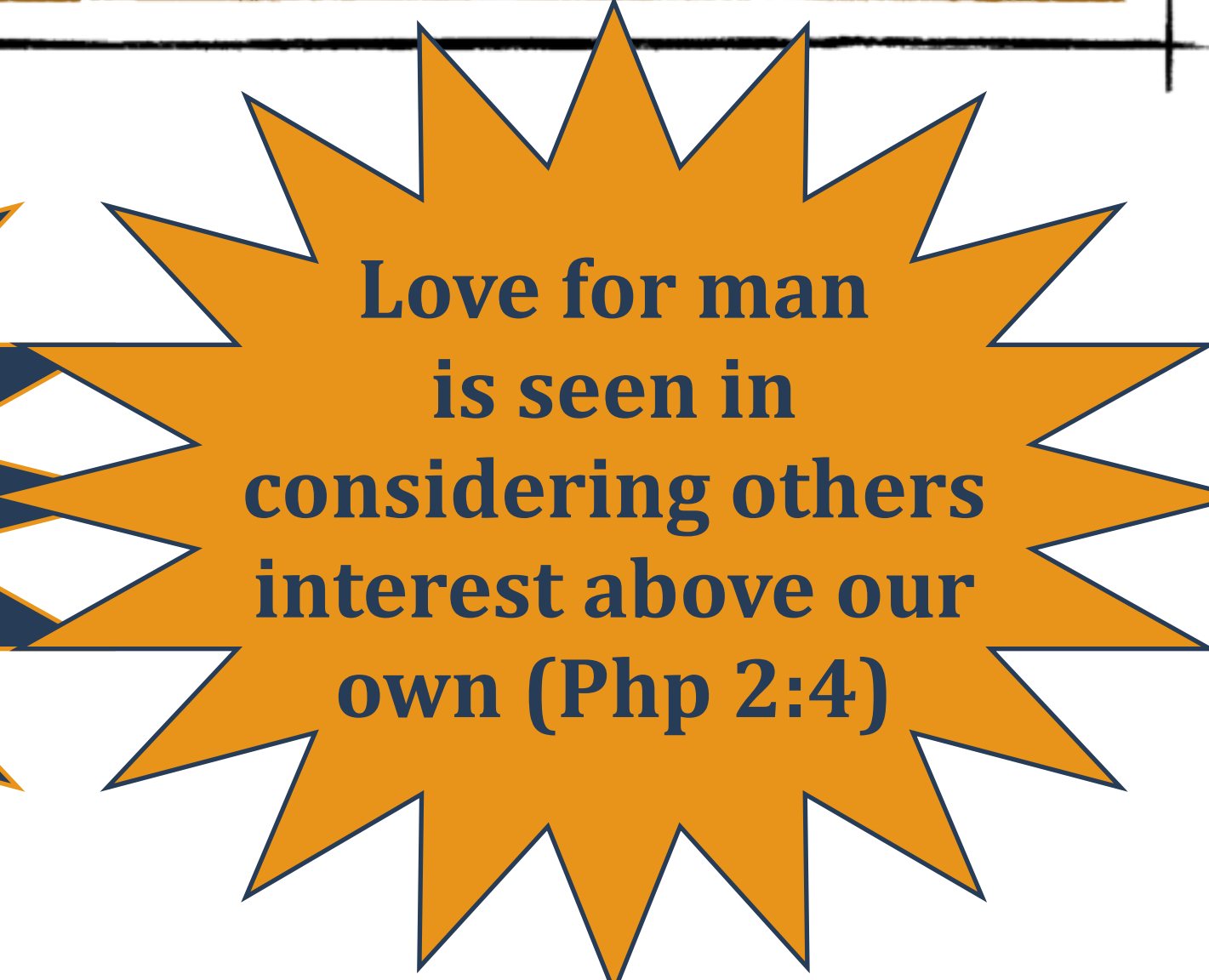
We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers, remembering without ceasing your work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the sight of our God and Father, knowing, beloved brethren, your election by God.

Paul's Prayer of Thanks (vs. 2-4)

We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers, remembering without ceasing your work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the sight of our God and Father, knowing, beloved brethren, your election by God.



**Love for God is
seen in obedience
(Jhn 14:15, 21,
23)**



**Love for man
is seen in
considering others
interest above our
own (Php 2:4)**

Paul's Prayer of Thanks (vs. 2-4)

We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers, remembering without ceasing your work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the sight of our God and Father, knowing, beloved brethren, your election by God.

HOPE REQUIRES PATIENCE

Paul's Prayer of Thanks (vs. 2-4)

We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers, remembering without ceasing your work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the sight of our God and Father, knowing, beloved brethren, your election by God.

Paul's Prayer of Thanks (vs. 2-4)

We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers, remembering without ceasing your work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the sight of our God and Father, knowing, beloved brethren, your election by God.

- * False teachers try and lead the elect astray (Matt 24:24)
- * Peter tells us to make our calling and election sure (2 Pet 1:10)
- * God will gather His elect on the day of Judgment (Mk 13:27) and avenge us when we suffer (Lk 18:7)
- * To be elected means to be chosen or picked. Similar to the meaning of church ("the called out")

WHY CAN
THEY BE
CONFIDENT
IN THE
GOSPEL?
(vs. 5-6)

For our gospel did not come to you
in word only...

1. The Quality of the Words

2. The Power of the Holy Spirit's
Miracles

3. Paul's selfless & sincere
preaching

4. The joy and success of
Christianity amidst suffering
there and elsewhere

The effect of the Thessalonian Example (7-10)



For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place...

how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for His Son from heaven.

THESSALONIANS

Standing firm in the shadow of
religious confusion